



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 April 2022      Period start date  
To 31 March 2023      Period end date

**Charity name: Durham Sinfonia (aka Orchestra North East)**

**Charity registration number: 1081465**

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To promote and develop public education in and appreciation of music by the presentation of public orchestral concerts.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>The main activities of the Charity are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) self-promotion of concerts in which the orchestra performs quality programmes of classical music; and</li><li>(ii) engagement as a contracted orchestra in classical music concerts promoted by others.</li></ul> <p>The activities are all set within the geographical area of the North East of England. For each concert, the orchestra is assembled by invitation. The musicians are engaged on a volunteer basis for the self-promoted concerts and, usually, on a fee basis for the contracted engagements. As part of the quality offer of the concerts, guest professional conductors, soloists and a few of the principal orchestral musicians are engaged on a fee basis.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Please see above. The Trustees do have regard to the Charity Commission guidance on Public Benefit.

## Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	

Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>Orchestra North East attracts players from a wide geographic area to play ambitious symphonic works, concertos, film music and more popular repertoire. It also seeks to perform and promote new works by living composers and work with other local musical societies and groups, including young performers.</p> <p>The 2022-23 season has seen a return to regular public performance after the Covid-19 pandemic. The orchestra has rehearsed and performed two programmes of music one performed at two separate venues, Durham Gala Theatre and Newcastle Cathedral. Both programmes have included concertos with professional soloists as well as purely orchestral music.</p> <p>It has also collaborated with Hertfordshire Choral Society in performing James McCarthy's Codebreakers (in the presence of the composer) and Vaughan Williams's Sea Symphony at Sage Gateshead, and with Newcastle Choral Society in a performance of Handel's Messiah. All performances have been well received by appreciative audiences.</p>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	

Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>The Charity has received concert income from its three independent concerts, donations, some with gift aid, and orchestra tax relief through the associated Orchestra North East Productions Ltd, a company set up to allow claiming this government benefit through HMRC.</p> <p>Expenditure has been on the three independent orchestral concerts, and maintaining insurance cover and membership of <i>Making Music</i>, an organisation that provides guidance and support to music groups. <i>Making Music</i> also assists with the claim of orchestra tax relief, for a fee of 10% plus VAT.</p> <p>Income from the two choral societies has totalled £8,550, most of this covering fees for orchestra members.</p> <p>The three independent orchestral concerts made a net loss of £8,285.89. (Orchestra tax relief, claimed in the 2022-3 financial year is £4,618.02)</p> <p>We have been fortunate in receiving £13,600 in external donations from charitable trusts and an individual this year. This results in an overall improvement in our finances by £10,335.60 over the year.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The Charity's policy on reserves is to maintain funds at a sufficient level to cover the costs of concert performances during a planned year ahead of operations.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£24,577.55 (as of 31 March 2023).
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	

Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	There are no funds materially in deficit.
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The Charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The principal sources of funds are: (i) concert ticket sales (ii) external hire fees (i.e. being paid to play for other societies) (iii) donations from the membership of the orchestra (iv) donations from other sources (v) sponsorship and grants (vi) Orchestra Tax Relief (claimed through a Production Company – Orchestra North East Productions Limited).
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	The Charity does not have any investments as such. Its only assets are the cash in hand at bank, on which a small amount of interest is earned each year.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The principal risk is loss of concert income, which is managed by the financial planning described above.
Other		Proportionate returns on pre-concert expenditure are now achieved through claims for Orchestra Tax Relief.

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated association or society.
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Elected by membership at AGM.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	<p>The Society is run in accordance with the rules contained within its Constitution and the membership of the Society is those currently playing in the orchestra at the time of the AGM.</p> <p>The management of the Society is placed in the hands of a Committee consisting of the following Officers: Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and not less than four other members. The Officers and the other Committee members are elected by and out of the Society's members at AGM. Provided they are willing, the Officers and members of the Committee are appointed as Trustees of the Charity. Before and on appointment, they are encouraged to study the guidance for Trustees on the Charity Commission website.</p>
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Please see above. A Production Company has also been set up (Orchestra North East Productions Limited, Company number 11280090), the directors of which (two Trustees of the Charity) act under the terms of a Trust Deed in accordance with the wishes and interests of the Charity in dealing with the pre-concert production arrangements for Orchestra North East concerts. This allows the Charity to secure the benefits of Orchestra Tax relief in relation to eligible pre-concert production expenses. The Charity is a member of <i>Making Music</i> , the main UK association for voluntary music.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Please see above (re the Production Company).
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Durham Sinfonia
Other name the charity uses	Orchestra North East
Registered charity number	1081465
Charity's principal address	4 Caseton Close, WHITLEY BAY NE25 9PL

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Michael BORTHWICK	Chairman		At AGM (by orchestra membership)
2	Peter CHESTER			At AGM
3	Michael CAVE			At AGM
4	Clarke R SLATER			At AGM
5	Roger JAY	Treasurer	From December 2022	At AGM
6				
7				
8				

**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

Director name		

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

**Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others**

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	None
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	None

**Additional information (optional)****Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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## Other optional information

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Michael BORTHWICK	Roger JAY
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chairman	Treasurer
Date	September 2023	



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Orchestra North East (aka Durham Sinfonia)

No (if any)

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

Period start date  
4/1/2022

To

Period end date  
3/31/2023

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Concerts	17,973	-	-	17,973	4,009
Donations - members	1,202	-	-	1,202	1,020
Donations - miscellaneous	13,600	-	-	13,600	-
Other income (gift aid, orchestra tax relief)	1,530	-	-	1,530	426
Interest	32	-	-	32	1
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>34,337</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>34,337</b>	<b>5,456</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
Nil	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>34,337</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>34,337</b>	<b>5,456</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Concerts - direct payments by ONE	7,489	-	-	7,489	1,612
Concerts - loans to Production Company	16,105	-	-	16,105	5,446
Other costs	407	-	-	407	473
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>24,001</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,001</b>	<b>7,531</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
Nil	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>24,001</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,001</b>	<b>7,531</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>10,336</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,336</b>	<b>- 2,075</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>10,336</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,336</b>	<b>- 2,075</b>



## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Opening balance	14,242	-	-
	Movement in funds	10,336	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>24,578</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
	Nil	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Nil		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Nil		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Nil		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	See examiner's report	Roger Jay	10/27/2023	
	See examiner's report	Michael Borthwick	10/27/2023	

Durham Sinfonia (t/a Orchestra North East)  
Charity no. 1081465

Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Year ended 31 March 2017(£)	Year ended 31 March 2018(£)
<u>Receipts</u>		
Concerts	13,679	10,425
Donations - members	3,701	1,870
Donations - misc.	1,250	200
Other income (Gift Aid)	1,314	-
Interest	2	2
Total receipts	<u>19,946</u>	<u>12,497</u>
<u>Payments</u>		
Concerts	- 16,595	- 10,793
Other costs	- 504	- 638
Total payments	<u>- 17,099</u>	<u>- 11,431</u>
 Movement in funds	 <u>2,847</u>	 <u>1,066</u>
 Opening cash balance	 12,110	 14,957
Movement in funds	<u>2,847</u>	<u>1,066</u>
Closing cash balance	<u>14,957</u>	<u>16,023</u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	31 March 2017 (£)	31 March 2018 (£)
<u>Assets</u>		
Cash balances	<u>14,957</u>	<u>16,023</u>
Total assets	<u>14,957</u>	<u>16,023</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Unpresented cheques at year end -	2,468	- 3,390
Other liabilities	- 475	-
Total liabilities	<u>- 2,943</u>	<u>- 3,390</u>
 Net assets	 <u>12,014</u>	 <u>12,673</u>

  
M Graham, Treasurer

  
MA Borthwick, Chairman

Date 4/9/18

9 Archery Rise  
Durham  
DH1 4LA

29 July 2018

The Trustees of Durham Sinfonia  
c/o Mike Graham  
Honorary Treasurer  
10 Mast Lane  
Cullercoats  
North Shields  
Tyne and Wear  
NE30 3DE

Dear Mike,

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Durham Sinfonia, operating under the working name Orchestra North East, Charity no. 1081465, on the receipts and payments accounts for the year ended 31 March 2018**

*Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner*

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

*Basis of independent examiner's report*

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

*Independent examiner's statement*

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Simon Newitt  
FCA, MA, BA (Hons.)

29 July 2018

9 Archery Rise  
Durham  
DH1 4LA